

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In view of the amendments and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Status of the claims

Following entry of the present amendment, claims 26-34, 36-38, 64-72, 74-76, 90 and 102-103 remain pending in the application. The Examiner indicates that claims 26-34, 36-38, 64-72, 74-76, 90 and 102-103 are allowable. Claims 1-25, 35, 39-63, 73, 77-89, and 91-101 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue these claims in a separate application. Applicants assert that no new matter is presented by these amendments and respectfully request entry of the same.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 39, and 77 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lockhart et al. (1996) in view of either Hogg et al. or Hollander et al. Applicants respectfully disagree. However, in order to expedite the issuance of allowable claims, Applicants have cancelled claims 1-25, 35, 39-63, 73, 77-89, and 91-101. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this application or feels that a telephone

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conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at (408) 731-5000.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 01-0431.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Wei Zhou Reg. No.: 44,419

Date: 3-8-06

Customer No.: 22886
Legal Department
Affymetrix, Inc.
3380 Central Expressway
Santa Clara, CA 95051
Tel: 408/731-5000
Fax: 408/731-5392